

Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-02 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-03 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FPC-01 H-03 INR-11

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 DRC-01 IO-14

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 /184 W
----- 036223

R 110851Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0495

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 3347

FROM WOLLE MUSCAT

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ENRG TC SA MU

SUBJ: SAUDI-UAE BORDER AGREEMENT AS SEEN BY OMAN

REF: A) KUWAIT 3291; B) ABU DHABI 1009

1. MINSTATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS ZAWAWI ON AUG 8 DESCRIBED RECENT SAG-UAE BORDER AGREEMENT TO ME AS GOOD STEP FORWARD, AND BENEFICIAL TO BOTH PARTIES AND TO REGION. HE CLAIMED HAVE NO OFFICIAL KNOWLEDGE OF ITS CONTENTS, BUT HIS DESCRIPTION BASED ON "THIRD-HAND" KNOWLEDGE SOUNDED VERY CLOSE TO DESCRIPTION PARA TWO REFTEL B. SAID HE PRESUMED SOME SPECIFICS WOULD COME OUT AFTER ZAYID VISIT TO SA FOR SIGNATURE.

2. ZAWAWI UNDERSTANDS NEW SAG-UAE BORDER WILL INTERSECT WITH OMANI TERRITORY AT POINT SOMEWHAT SOUTH OF PRESENT DE FACTO TRI-BORDER INTERSECTION AT UMM AL-ZUMUL. HE SAID THERE IS OIL STRUCTURE THAT VICINITY BEING EXPLORED BOTH BY ABU DHABI AND OMAN ON
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THEIR RESPECTIVE SIDES OF BORDER, KNOWN AS LEKHWAIR ON OMANI

SIDE BUT BY ANOTHER NAME ON WESTERN SIDE OF LINE. (COMMENT: PRESUMABLY THIS OILFIELD, ABOUT WHICH PD(O) RECENTLY EXPRESSED CONCERN TO US, REPORTED REFTEL A, IS SAME AS THAT MENTIONED BY HABROUSH TO AMB STERNER AS NORTHEAST OF ZARARA AND "WHOLLY WITHIN ABU DHABI").

3. ASKED ABOUT SIGNIFICANCE THIS SAG-UAE FOR OMAN'S OWN BORDER DEFINITIONS, ZAWAWI THOUGHT WOULD BE NO TROUBLE REACHING EVENTUAL AGREEMENT WITH SAUDIS SINCE SULTAN AND KING FAISAL CAN DEPEND THOROUGHLY ON EACH OTHER'S WORD AND THEIR AUTHORITY WITHIN RESPECTIVE OMANIS. HE INDICATED SOME SOUNDS ALREADY MADE BUT GAVE NO DETAILS, BUT HE THOUGH FINAL RESOLUTION WITH ABU DHABI MAY BE DIFFICULT SINCE OMANIS NOT SURE THAT ZAYID CAN MAKE HIS OWN WISHES, WHICH MAY BE REASONABLE, STAND AS FULLY AGREED UAE POSITION. ZAWAWI GAVE NO INDICATION THAT ANY BORDER NEGOTIATIONS PRESENTLY UNDERWAY WITH ZAYID OR UAE.
STOLTZFUS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, EXPLORATION, AGREEMENTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, BOUNDARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KUWAIT03347
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740220-0057
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740857/aaaabwsj.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) KUWAIT 3291; B) ABU DHABI 1009
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 AUG 2002 by kellew0>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAUDI-UAE BORDER AGREEMENT AS SEEN BY OMAN
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, TC, SA, MU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005